Perspectives on Importing Clean Coal Power into California

Josh Bushinsky
State Solutions Fellow
Pew Center on Global Climate Change

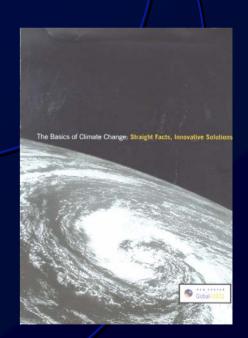
August 18, 2005

Committee Workshop on Clean Coal Technology Status and Potential Issues for California Energy Policy

The Pew Center

- Founded in May 1998
- Independent, Non-Profit, Non-Partisan
- Research (science and impacts, policy, economics, solutions)
- Education and Outreach
- Business Environmental Leadership Council







The Challenge: GHG Emissions from Coal Power Imports

- GHG emissions from imported power
 - ~10% of California's GHG emissions
 - 50% of total emissions from electricity
- Coal power imports in 2004
 - 9% of gross system power
 - 50% of imported power
- → Addressing GHG emissions requires addressing imported coal power



Drivers for Low-Carbon Coal Power

California Imports

- State emission targets
- CPUC carbon adder

Western Exports

- Clean coal technology development
- Federal policies and incentives
- Polygen applications

→ Co-benefits

- Criteria pollutants, risk management, water



Relevant State Experience

- Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative
- New Hampshire 4P legislation
- Massachusetts power plant legislation
- OR and WA CO₂ offset standards
- Coal technology initiatives



Policy Options

- Emissions portfolio standard
- Plant performance standards
- Cap-and-trade on LSEs
- Mandatory carbon offsets
- Regional technology initiatives

→ Clear policy with technology support



Technology Development Options

- Coal RD&D
 - Advanced coal
 - Carbon separation, capture and sequestration demonstration projects
 - Plant efficiency
- Take advantage of federal incentives
- Public/private partnerships



Barriers and Solutions: IGCC with CCS

Barriers

- First-mover risk
- Regulatory uncertainty
- Public acceptance of sequestration

Solutions

- Support IGCC and CCS demonstration
- Design regulatory regime/permitting
- Public education



Conclusion

- Coal is key to addressing GHG emissions
- The west can lead on low-carbon coal technology
- Requires cooperation between California and western electricity exporters
- Mutual benefit



+ For More Information

www.pewclimate.org

States web resources

http://www.pewclimate.org/what_s_being_done/in_the_states/index.cfm

